

INFLUENZA

Influenza is an acute respiratory disease caused by influenza type A or B viruses. Typical features of influenza include abrupt onset of fever, respiratory symptoms, such as cough, sore throat and coryza, and systemic symptoms, such as headache, muscle aches and fatigue.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Virus isolation

Statistics on Confirmed Cases for 2002-2003 Season

Influenza season surveillance begins in October of one year and continues through May of the following year.

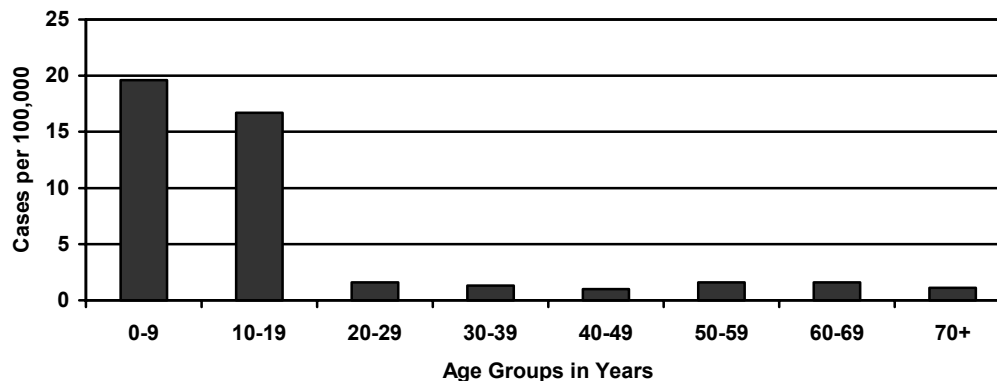
Epidemiology

Kentucky	2002-2003	Rate per 100,000
Cases	242	6.0

Cases by Gender

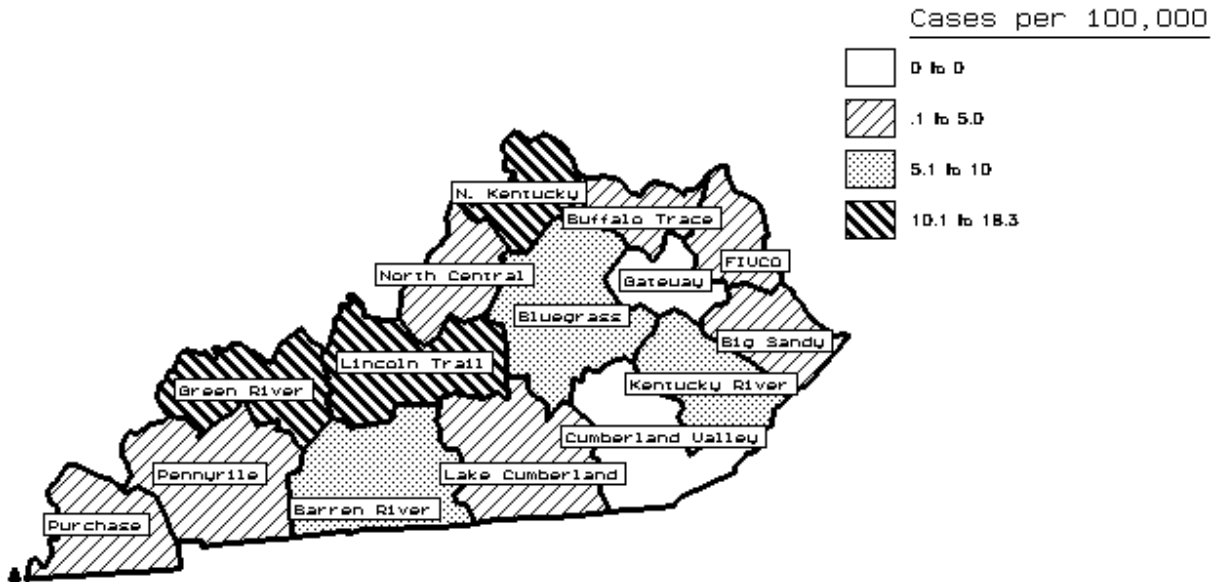
Female	109	5.2
Male	131	6.6
Unknown	2	

**Influenza, Age-Specific Incidence, Kentucky
2002-2003**



The cases per 100,000 for culture confirmed influenza in children under one year of age was 38.9, and then dropped to 13.8 cases per 100,000 for children one to four years of age and to 20.6 for children five to nine years of age.

Influenza Incidence by District, Kentucky 2002-2003 Influenza Season



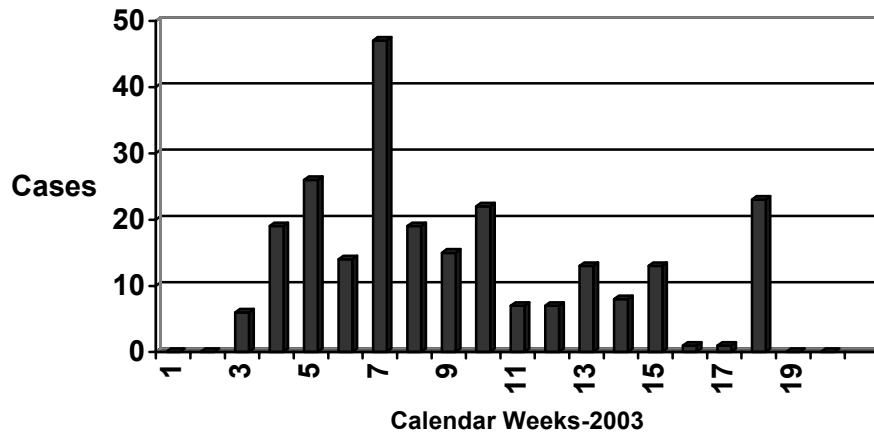
The Green River District had the highest incidence rate of 18.3 cases per 100,000. Henderson County reported 27 confirmed cases for an incidence of 60.2 cases per 100,000, while Webster County reported 6 cases for an incidence of 42.8 cases per 100,000.

Lincoln Trail District reported the next highest rate 13.4 cases per 100,000. Nelson County reported 24 culture confirmed cases, for a rate of 62.2 cases per 100,000, while Washington County reported 5 cases for an incidence of 4.3 cases per 100,000.

The Northern Kentucky District had 10.6 cases per 100,000. Boone and Campbell Counties both reported 16 cases for incidence rates of 17.7 and 18.1 cases per 100,000 respectively.

District	Rate per 100,000
Purchase	1.0
Pennyryle	0.5
Green River	18.3
Barren River	9.7
Lincoln Trail	13.4
North Central	3.0
Northern Kentucky	10.6
Buffalo Trace	1.8
Gateway	0.0
Fivco	0.7
Big Sandy	2.5
Kentucky River	9.2
Cumberland Valley	0.0
Lake Cumberland	4.6
Bluegrass	6.6

Influenza Incidence by Calendar Week for 2002-2003



There was one influenza case confirmed for October through December 2002.

Only viral culture isolates are included in the data of this summary and reflect the actual disease incidence. The viral types cultured during **2002-2003** are as follows:

Type A H1N1	-----	20
Type A H3N2	-----	1
Type A (subtype not known)	-----	17
Type B	-----	204

Influenza isolate collection kits are available from the Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Laboratory Services and all health care providers are encouraged to submit samples.

Kentucky influenza surveillance begins in October of each year and continues through May of the following year. A network of sentinel physicians and local health departments participate in weekly influenza surveillance for influenza like illness that is reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Information also is obtained from nursing homes, schools, physician offices, and hospitals.